

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference P04833900 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See item 4 below |
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/009074 | International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 June 2004 (22.06.2004) | Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27 June 2003 (27.06.2003) |
| International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237 | | |
| Applicant YAZAKI CORPORATION | | |

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|-------------------------------------|---|---|-----------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------|--------------|---|
| 1. | This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .1(a). | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. | <p>This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. | <p>This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 20%;">Box No. I</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority | <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability | <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited | <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application | <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. | The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2). | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35</p> | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Date of issuance of this report 03 January 2006 (03.01.2006)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Authorized officer Masashi Honda</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 10</td> </tr> </table> | Date of issuance of this report 03 January 2006 (03.01.2006) | Authorized officer Masashi Honda | Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 10 |
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| Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 10 | | | | |

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

REC'D 28 OCT 2004

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From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/009074

International filing date (day/month/year)
22.06.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
27.06.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B60Q3/02

Applicant
YAZAKI CORPORATION

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/009074

Box No. 1 Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/009074

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

- ☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).
- ☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims | 5 |
| | No: Claims | 1-4, 6-8 |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims | 5 |
| | No: Claims | 1-4, 6-8 |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-8 |
| | No: Claims | |

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

1 The following document are referred to in this communication:

D1 : PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 23, 10 February 2001
(2001-02-10) -& JP 2001 155801 A (HONDA ACCESS CORP), 8 June 2001
D2: US-B-6283621
D3: EP-A-1281572

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

For document D1, it must be noted that an automatic translation from Japanese to English can be obtained at the Japanese Patent Office at the following Internet URL: <http://www4.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/Tokujitu/PAJdetail.ipdl?N0000=60&N0120=01&N2001=2&N3001=2001-155801>

Document D1 discloses all the features of present claim 1 (the references in parenthesis applying to this document):

- an electrical equipment unit protection device comprising
- an electronic equipment unit (that) includes a plurality of function portions (see light emitting diodes 3 on Fig. 18, 25) connected together by wires and a design portion (translucent cover 5) attached to said function portions,
- an electronic unit holder (base object 2) for respectively releasably retaining said function portions; and
- an interconnecting portion interconnecting the adjacent retaining portions (see paragraph 58, joint terminal 101 with elastic body 103), and when said electrical equipment unit is to be mounted in an electrical equipment-mounting window formed in an interior wall member, said unit holder holds the adjacent function portions spaced a predetermined distance from each other by said retaining portions and said interconnecting portions.

3 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 6

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 6 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

Document D1 further discloses all the features of present independent claim 6 (see the relevant passages aforementioned for claim 1).

4 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-4, 7, 8

Dependent claims 2-4, 7, 8 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).

In document D1, the interconnecting portion has elasticity (see elastic member 103).

In D1, bulbs with covers are shown on Fig. 25 for example. The bulb covers appears to open toward a side opposite to a side for mounting the wire.

5 DEPENDENT CLAIM 5

The combination of the features of dependent claim 5 seems to be neither known from, nor to be rendered obvious by, the available prior art.

6 FORMAL MATTERS

Claim 1 comprises all the features of claim 6 and is therefore not appropriately formulated as a claim dependent on the latter (Rule 6.4 PCT).

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/009074

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